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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومياً بمسئولية المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Today's Weather

There will be another increase in temperature, with northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, it will be hot, with northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
Amman	19	34
Aqaba	26	40
Deserts	20	37
Jordan Valley	25	39

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 32, Aqaba 36. Sunset tonight: 6:44 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow: 4:39 a.m.

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Cholera cases reach 402

AMMAN, July 13 (Petra) — A total of 106 cholera cases were reported in Jordan in the past 24 hours, increasing the total number of infected so far to 402, a Health Ministry statement announced today.

The announcement said that another 166 patients were admitted to hospitals in the same period for cholera diagnosis.

A total of 159 cholera patients have been discharged from hospitals so far after having been completely cured from the disease, the statement

said. There were no more deaths apart from the four cases announced previously.

The ministry also announced that laboratory analysis conducted on samples of soil and vegetables irrigated by waste water proved to contain the cholera bacteria.

Health Ministry teams are continuing their campaigns and tests to identify cholera infested areas in Amman, Irbid and Balqa regions with a view to finding radical solution to the problem, the statement said.

Silent on arms-only-for-defence issue

'Misunderstandings' with Israel cleared up, envoy McFarlane says

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 13 (R) — U.S. special envoy Robert McFarlane said tonight the United States and Israel had cleared up

any misunderstandings that might have arisen after last month's Israeli raid on an Iraqi nuclear plant.

After a second meeting with Prime Minister Menachem Begin, McFarlane said in a statement.

"The governments of Israel and the United States declare that any misunderstandings which might have arisen in the wake of the Israeli operation have been clarified to the satisfaction of both sides."

The American official would not say whether this meant the U.S. would go ahead with the sale of F-16 fighters suspended after an air raid in which American-occupied aircraft were used.

But Israel Television said that its F-16s whose delivery was

temporarily blocked pending a U.S. government investigation of the attack would be shipped to Israel next Friday.

The television report said Friday's shipment would include the four suspended planes in addition to six others due for delivery.

In Washington, a State Department spokesman said he expected the review of Israel's use of F-16 jets in the raid against the Iraqi plant to be completed this week, before the scheduled date for the delivery of the six aircraft.

Mr. Begin told reporters after today's first meeting in occupied Jerusalem that Mr. McFarlane

had hinted the planes might be released if Israel muted its opposition to the sale of advanced surveillance aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

"He did not make a statement linking the two, but one could have surmised that there is such a connection," the prime minister said.

Israel has voiced strong opposition to the deal, saying such planes could be used to obtain vital information about Israeli military movements.

Israeli and U.S. officials would not say whether any Israeli pledge concerning future use of American weapons was made during tonight's second meeting.

Deputy Defence Minister Mordechai Zipori said yesterday that Israel "will not take upon itself any restrictions that would mean it would have to sit helplessly while it possesses the required weapons and while there are actions to be taken for the defence of the country."

Rioters go on trial in Rabat

RABAT, July 13 (R) — More than 20 people, including five leading members of the opposition Socialist Party, went on trial in Rabat today charged with inciting violence during a national strike June 20, defence lawyers said.

The five are members of the national administrative committee of the Union Socialiste des Forces Populaires (USFP), the main opposition party.

The 82 defendants, most of whom were arrested in Rabat, are charged with inciting violence, staging an unauthorised demonstration, arson,

destruction of public property, and armed riotous assembly, the lawyers said.

On Saturday, the trial opened in Casablanca of a number of trade union and socialist opposition leaders charged with inciting violence in the city where many people were killed in the riots on June 20. That hearing has been postponed pending further investigations.

The radical trades union grouping, the Confederation Democratique du Travail (CDT) called the national strike to protest against increases in the prices of basic foods.

Waldheim urges constructive approach to Kampuchea crisis

UNITED NATIONS, July 13 (R) — Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, calling Kampuchea one of the great tragedies of our time, called today for high statemanship to restore peace to the region.

Opening a conference attended by more than 70 countries, he said that if all parties approached the problem constructively a settlement could easily be reached.

Waldheim, who has set up the United Nations Centre for International Peacekeeping in Cambodia and maintains 200,000 troops in the country, and the Soviet Union, which contributes more than \$2 billion of aid to the Vietnamese, are boycotting the proceedings.

The conference was requested by the U.N. General Assembly in the aim of finding a comprehensive political settlement.

Austrian Foreign Minister Wilfried Pahr was elected chairman of the conference at today's opening meeting.

The United States delegation was led by Secretary of State Alexander Haig appearing for the first time at a gathering in the U.N. headquarters.

Mr. Waldheim said in his opening remarks that the Kampuchean situation was extremely complex.

"These difficulties can be overcome only by a high degree of statemanship," he said.

"If all the parties approach the problem with a constructive and forward-looking basis motivated by concern for the appalling suffering of the people of Kampuchea and respect for the nation, a settlement can surely be obtained," Mr. Waldheim said.

Mitterrand leaves Bonn 'extremely satisfied'

PARIS, July 13 (R) — France and West Germany reached broad agreement today on major international issues and decided on a joint treaty for next week's economic summit in Ottawa in which high interest rates will be a prominent issue.

France's new Socialist President Francois Mitterrand told a press conference he and West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt enhanced their personal understanding and their ability to work together.

We met no obstacles on the important problems and this is a useful sign for the future of our relations. There will still be some concrete problems to solve but we can solve them together," Mitterrand said.

French officials said high U.S. interest rates and the strong dollar among these unresolved issues which will feature prominently in the discussions in Ottawa with President Reagan.

Mr. Schmidt said he and Mr. Mitterrand wanted to ensure that the views of the seven countries represented in Ottawa "give way to the adoption of following egoistic national policies on trade, currencies and interest rates."

Answering questions, Mr. Schmidt said a policy to stabilise the dollar was urgently needed. Mr. Mitterrand said differences between interest rates on foreign exchange markets were too big. France has called on President Reagan to reduce U.S. interest rates, it says, as a way to help a recovery from recession in Europe and to record unemployment.

Mitterrand told the final session of the Franco-German summit that pressure on the U.S. to cut its high interest rates must be relaxed. He was optimistic that agreement on this and on trade

issues could be reached, his spokesman Michel Vauzelle said. Heads of state of the U.S., France, West Germany, Britain, Italy, Canada and Japan will meet in Ottawa on July 20 and 21 to discuss international trade and currency issues.

The French president, making his first official visit to Bonn, said Franco-German friendship and solidarity was the cornerstone of cooperation in the European Economic Community (EEC) and of great importance in international relations.

Mr. Mitterrand was "extremely satisfied" with the talks and Mr. Schmidt said their discussions ensured that Franco-German cooperation would remain close, reflecting the friendship treaty signed in 1963.

Mr. Mitterrand's victory at the polls over the chancellor's close friend, former president Valery Giscard d'Estaing, and the inclusion of four Communist ministers in his government had led to fears that relations between Paris and Bonn might become strained.

The French government is trying to spend its way out of recession while Mr. Schmidt, faced with a huge budget deficit, favours tight credit policies to beat inflation.

Neither leader referred at the news conference to these differences on economic policy.

On the European military balance, Mr. Mitterrand said the West should seek disarmament talks with the Soviet Union from a position of strength by pressing ahead with moves to deploy new U.S. medium-range missiles in Western Europe.

French and West German officials said a series of international political and economic questions were discussed in bilateral talks between seven ministers from both sides during the two-day summit.

BBC Cyprus staff strike

AMMAN, July 13 (J.T.) — British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) World Service transmission to the Middle East was interrupted today because employees at the relay station in Cyprus went on a 24-hour warning strike.

Habib extends mission to create comprehensive Lebanese solution

BAHRAIN, July 13 (Agencies) — U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib arrived in Saudi Arabia today in what appeared to be a bid to find a comprehensive agreement on the status of Lebanon which would involve Saudi Arabia, Syria, the Lebanese and Israel.

Mr. Habib who flew to Saudi Arabia from Israel, is on his third visit to the Middle East since President Ronald Reagan sent him to the region to try to defuse the tense situation after Syria moved SAM missiles to the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon in response to the Israeli shooting down two Syrian helicopters in April and Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's threat to use force and destroy the missiles if they are not withdrawn.

Mr. Habib met Prime Minister Menachem Begin in occupied Jerusalem yesterday but gave no details of the talks.

As Mr. Habib left for Saudi Arabia today, Israel Radio reported that he had extended the scope of his mission and was now seeking a comprehensive agreement on the status of Lebanon which would involve Israel, Syria, Saudi Arabia and the Lebanese.

Mr. Begin has threatened to remove the missiles by force if Mr. Habib's mission fails. But today he said he had not laid down a deadline for the diplomatic efforts.

"However I told Mr. Habib that the crisis cannot go on indefinitely and is a matter of urgency," he said.

The radio report said Mr. Habib

had evolved a complicated agreement which included the gradual pullback of Syrian troops from Lebanon, the withdrawal of the missiles and an Israeli commitment to curb its attacks on the Palestinian camps.

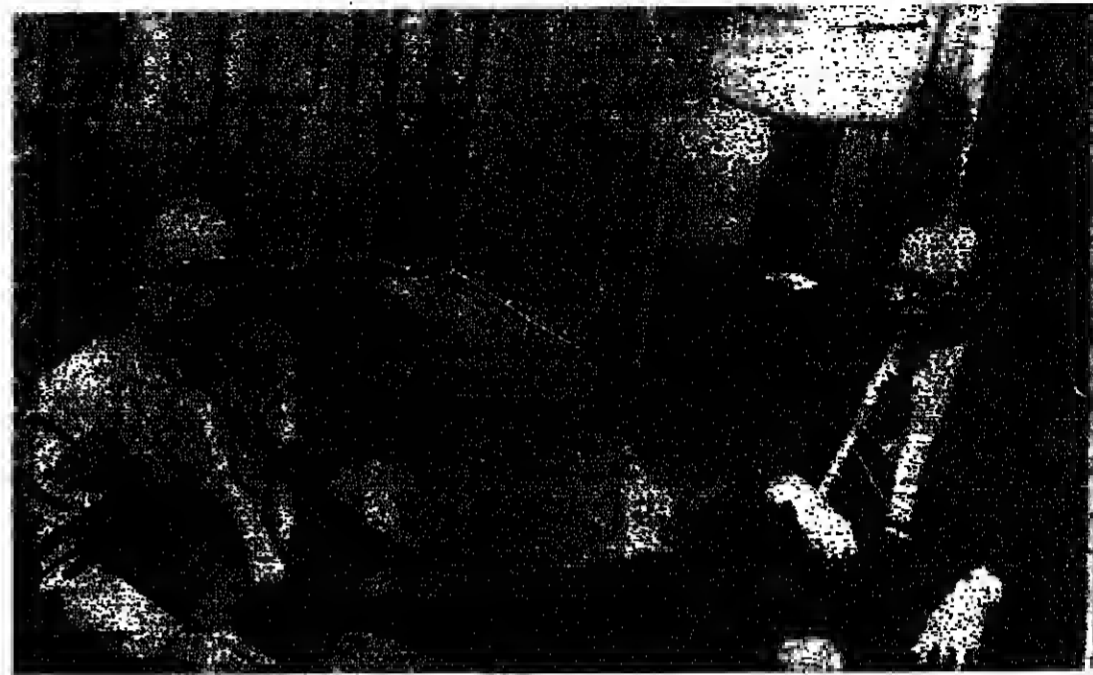
Israel would also restrain its Lebanese right-wing militia allies and allow United Nations peacekeeping forces to deploy along the Israeli-Lebanese border.

Government spokesman declined to confirm the reports. But they said Mr. Begin's intended fulfilling his election promise to continue attacking the Palestinian camps by all possible means.

Saudi Arabia has dismissed the missile issue as a short term problem and instead is concentrating its diplomatic efforts, through an Arab League committee for tackling the roots of the fighting in Lebanon.

The committee, made up of the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Syria and Lebanon, is due to hold its fourth meeting in Lebanon later this month to pursue political ways of ending six years of factional violence.

The committee has already helped bring peace to the town of Zahle in eastern Lebanon, which



U.S. envoy Philip Habib confers with Israeli Premier Menachem Begin in occupied Jerusalem on Sunday. Mr. Habib left for Saudi Arabia on Monday with an expanded scope of his peace mission to seek a comprehensive solution to the Lebanese crisis (A.P. wirephoto)

Warsaw braces for congress as labour disputes form background

WARSAW, July 13 (R) — Poland simmered with industrial tension today on the eve of a Communist Party congress that will be looking for ways to end the country's year-long crisis.

As delegates from other Communist states arrived in Warsaw for the congress, at least three labour disputes were reported in spite of calls for industrial peace from the government and the Solidarity trade union.

Bus drivers in Kutno, west of Warsaw, twice staged two-hour strikes for more food, workers in an office equipment factory in Torun voted to oust their manager and employees of the state airline LOT said their plans for an indefinite strike next week remained unchanged.

Solidarity reported that railway workers in several areas had announced support for LOT employees who are demanding the right to elect their own boss.

Industrial unrest and protest will be a major issue confronting the 1,964 delegates elected to the emergency party congress that opens tomorrow.

Party leader Stanislaw Kania will address the opening session of the congress and may call for a vote of confidence later in the day.

Delegates will be asked to decide how to elect a new leader. This is one of the many procedural and

statute matters they will rule on, breaking new ground for communism in Eastern Europe.

Party officials have said they expect Mr. Kania will be opposed for the leadership.

Mr. Kania today went to the airport to greet the Soviet delegation, led by politburo member Viktor Grishin.

The Kremlin has made no secret of its displeasure at Polish developments, but it let the Polish congress go ahead despite the precedent of sending Warsaw Pact troops to Prague in 1968 to halt a reform-orientated meeting of the Czechoslovak Communists.

The Czechoslovaks, who have drawn parallels between Polish developments and the situation in 1968, today called on Communists here to fight anti-socialist elements.

The Polish Communist Party's watchdog central control board today published a report to the congress acknowledging that the

party had been ideologically weakened and the country was threatened with anarchy and chaos.

The outgoing central committee said yesterday in another report that Poland had plunged into its present crisis because the party had lost touch with the working class it claimed to represent.

There are conflicting views within the party on how to resolve the crisis, ranging from what would amount to a hardline clampdown to further liberalisation.

The congress will consider reports on the state of the economy, which is almost on the point of collapse, and on a programme for economic recovery which will require some tough measures like price increases of up to 100 per cent.

The congress breaks into 16 working groups on Thursday or Friday and will end with the election by secret ballot of a new central committee and other party officers.

Malaysia expels 3 Soviet diplomats branded as KGB

KUALA LUMPUR, July 13 (R) — The Malaysian government today arrested a friend and close aide of the country's next prime minister and ordered the expulsion of three Soviet embassy officials, accusing them of spying.

The government said in a statement the three were agents of the KGB, the Soviet intelligence Agency. It said embassy Second Secretary Vladimir Romanov recruited Siddiq Mohammad Ghossein, political secretary to Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohamed who takes over from ailing Prime Minister Datuk Hussein on Thursday.

The statement said that Mr. Romanov had been assisted by G.L. Zepanov, a first secretary, and Z.L. Khamidouline, of the economic division.

The diplomats, who had been given 24 hours to leave, flew to Singapore tonight where an Aeroflot flight was later leaving for Moscow.

This is the first time Malaysia has expelled Soviet diplomats for spying, according to Western diplomats.

An official at the Soviet embassy, contacted by telephone, said the mission was closed for the day and no-one would be available for

comment.

The Soviets opened the embassy in 1968, less than a year after the two countries established diplomatic relations, a move seen then as a major foreign policy shift by the traditionally anti-communist Malaysian government.

Mr. Siddiq, 43, has been Dr. Mahathir's political secretary since 1974, first as education minister, and then as deputy prime minister from 1976. He has also held senior district positions in Malaysia's leading political party, the United Malaysian National Organisation.

He was arrested under the internal security act, under which he can be held indefinitely in custody.

The government said the activities of the three Soviet officials were "inadmissible and constitute a grave abuse of their positions."

"...their continued presence in Malaysia will be a threat to the country's security and prejudicial to the good relations between the two countries."

The home affairs ministry said police had recovered equipment supplied to Mr. Siddiq but it did not give details.

ASEAN doesn't want Israeli delegate at Kampuchea dinner

UNITED NATIONS, July 13 (R) — An invitation to the Israeli delegate to an Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) dinner tonight for participants in the Kampuchea conference was withdrawn without explanation, the Israeli mission said.

A statement called the withdrawal an extraordinary breach of etiquette, a slight to a member state and evidence of "the serious deterioration in the civilised conduct of international affairs that has characterised the U.N. in recent years."

Association members include Indonesia and Malaysia. Islamic countries that oppose Israeli policies. The other members are the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The Israeli mission said the invitation was sent to Yehuda Blum,

the chief delegate, two weeks ago and was withdrawn last Friday. T.T.B. Koh, chief delegate of Singapore, current chairman of the ASEAN, apologised to Mr. Blum but did not explain the exclusion.

"Ambassador Blum expressed surprise at this development and protested that the withdrawal of the invitation broke elementary norms of courtesy and good manners towards the representative of another state," the statement said.

In a related development, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig declined an invitation to the dinner for Kampuchea conference delegates tonight after Israel's ambassador was barred, diplomatic sources said.

The foreign ministers of the ASEAN arranged the dinner for other ministers and chief delegates to the conference.

Bani-Sadr supporter in Tehran Bazaar Leading businessman sent to firing squad

LONDON, July 13 (R) — A prominent Tehran businessman and supporter of ousted President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr was among 28 "counter-revolutionaries" executed in Iran today, Tehran Radio said.

The radio monitored here said Mr. Karim Dastmalchi, a leading member of the Tehran Bazaar which financed the Islamic revolution against the late Shah, had discredited the Islamic republic in interviews filed to foreign television networks.

Mr. Dastmalchi was active in the lengthy power struggle between Dr. Bani-Sadr and the dominant Islamic Republican Party (IRP) which ended with the president's dismissal last month.

He had been a supporter of Iran's centrist National Front which spearheaded early opposition to the Shah.

A second Bazaar executive today was named as Mr. Ahmad Javaheriyani. The radio said he had cooperated with and financed the left-wing Muslim people's Mujahedin-e-Khalq, the main target of the current anti-leftist backlash.

The sprawling, Tehran Bazaar, the largest in the Middle East and controlling most of Iran's foreign trade, financed Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's bid for power.

But Iran's business community has run into conflict with the country's ruling fundamentalist over government plans to nationalise foreign trade. Individual Bazaaris have also been accused of profiting since the start of the Gulf war with Iraq.

Specific charges against Mr. Dastmalchi included creating disruption among the Bazaar's Muslim merchants and encouraging them to stage shutdowns and other protest demonstrations.

It was the first time in the current crackdown against opponents of the Islamic government that Bazaaris who were prominent in the revolution had been sent to the firing squad.

Nearly all those arrested and tried since Dr. Bani-Sadr's downfall have been supporters of the Mujahedin-e-Khalq or of the Marxist Fedayeen group.

This was the case of 19 people executed today in Tehran and towns along the Caspian Sea, a traditional left-wing stronghold.

The radio said they were guilty of armed rebellion against the Islamic Republic.

Some 200 people have been sent to the firing squad in the past month and the rate of executions has risen since the June 28 bombing that killed 72 leading politicians at Islamic Republican Party (IRP) headquarters in Tehran.

The remaining seven people executed today included five drug dealers, a rapist and a supporter of the Shah's former prime minister, Shapur Bakhtiar, the radio said.

The official Pars news agency meanwhile reported an assassination attempt on two clerical officials of revolutionary courts in the Caspian area.

Pars, monitored in Ankara, said three motorcyclists opened fire on the two officials but were driven off by bodyguards.

In Tehran, newspapers reported a grenade attack on a revolutionary guard post in which four guards were wounded. The attackers escaped on motor-cycles.

An IRP office was also set ablaze yesterday in Tehran and arson was suspected, according to press reports.

سنة ١٤٠١ من الهجرة

Fuad Mimi: man of many parts

Meg Abu Hamdan
to the Jordan Times

— Away from the broods and screaming traffic Hussein there is an oasis of quiet darkness, a shaded floor to ceiling with traits and gentle lanterns and Roman treasures... feeling of timeless sanctity there in this inner sanctum his ambience he has created so much reflects his life (although never Fuad Mimi).

Mimi is a man of many parts, a television producer, a writer, an actor, teacher and a fashion designer. Although his talents are many, he seems to have achieved a lesser or greater success in all his interests. He has perhaps preferred to be known as a director first in radio, then in television that he first made his name in that he started writing articles for Radio Jordan's Morning News at the age of 14, about the time he felt deeply, being to, everything around

often asking him to share, choose the music for and even direct their own programmes. By the time Mimi was 18 he had his own complete programmes about Jordanian life and society and later about art.

In 1959 Jordan television took to the air and immediately wanted Mimi to work for them. "We can only lend you Fuad" was the anxious reply of the Minister of Information Salah Abu Zeid, not wishing to lose Mimi so easily from Radio Jordan. The tactic did not work as after a year of "borrowing", Mimi was officially employed full time by Jordan Television - a position he still holds today.

Then came the first opportunity to travel out of the Middle East. Mimi left to study production and direction at the BBC's famous Shepherds Bush studios on a scholarship won from the British Council. Mimi had always liked England, was familiar with its traditions and customs and even its television programmes. Therefore from the first day he "didn't feel like a stranger". His course included among the drama series a month with the Philharmonic Orchestra in Manchester and another month in complete contrast

with "Top of the Pops".

On his return, Mimi became the first director to produce programmes about music and art. His first music programme in 1972 was about Mozart while Mohanna Durra was the subject for the very first programme on art in 1973. Mimi's pop music programmes were the only ones to elicit a controversial response from at least one member of the public who threatened Mimi with loss of life if he did not stop making them. "When I showed the letter to Mohammad Kamal, he just burst out laughing" smiled Mimi. "So I understood that, at the risk of my life, the show must go on!"; as they say down Broadway.

The early 70s were Mimi's salad days: "Everyone was admiring my work and pushing me in a fantastic way. It was a golden period for Jordan TV too - its staff, although few in number, were all highly educated and keen, we were making a lot of local programmes as facilities and the best cameramen were readily available. We spent all our time at the studios - we would have our breakfast, lunch and dinner together".

But by 1975 things were starting to change. Gulf TV opened first asking Jordan TV, because of

encouraged and guided Fuad the amateur to take painting seriously.

Mimi's first exhibition at the British Council in 1975 was a surprise even to his closest friends as he had been painting very quietly at home with no-one knowing. The exhibition obviously impressed the British too as in 1978, on another scholarship from the Council, Mimi went back to London to attend St. Martins College of Art for one year.

There he was put in the advanced class where he found himself to be the only figurative artist among 10 abstract painters. A lesser artist may have lost his individuality and identity under such circumstances but Mimi always maintained his own style whether the subject was bedouins and tents or the verdant London parks. Even now he still feels he is not ready to plunge into total abstraction.

"My style is impressionistic, my aim is to create harmony between the colour and the subject, my play is with colour - experimenting with their psychological impact on the viewer. My subject is our society, our land, traditions, and people. In fact I paint whatever I feel like painting. Sometimes the desert, sometimes landscapes, geometrical patterns - and why not?"

Our artists here live in a limited atmosphere, they are not open to people and do not try to look around them. They see only a certain distance and only what they want to see. Through my work in television, as a director and producer following the art movement in this country, I believe that the artist here does not yet own the freedom, the education, the feelings to move his brush in the right way.

The exhibitions in the last few months of Jordanian artists also showed that there was no One style for all the artists and most of the paintings were limited to a certain subject. Maybe I cannot judge the point that the Jordanian artists have now reached, that function belongs to the art critics - though we do not have a real art critic here. What I do believe is that the artists here are new - they are at the beginning of their artistic experience.

Mimi continued, "Maybe the artists here have talent but that on its own is not enough. To be a real artist is no joke as you must follow all the movements outside, travel (which is a philosophy in itself) go to museums, read and do so much more. This is not to deny that some of the artists here are really trying to develop their work and are trying to make a good art movement in Jordan."

And it is by collecting the work of these artists that Mimi now owns one of the biggest collections of Jordanian art in the country. Mimi started collecting in 1973 with an oil of Aziz Amoura of a mother and child and has accumulated in the succeeding years over 100 works - approximately 65 of which are hanging in his house. Nearly all are by Arab artists with the exception of a group of very literal bold still lives - reminiscent of the style of the British artist David Tyndale - by a Greek art student friend.

Two he bought from a tiny shop behind Marble Arch; (the proprietor of which remarked "you know what to choose" when Mimi made his selection of a 200 year old Greek icon and a technically perfect rendition of (unusual for the time it was painted), a male nude and some small water colours from the recent Orientalists exhibition at the Alia Gallery.

Mimi has most of the paintings for Aziz Amoura, some of Ahmad Nawash, Ammar Khammash, Ibrahim Al Najjar and many more - his most recent addition and incidentally his first abstraction is by the artist Ayyad Nimer.

Some of his collection has been painted by young artists he has encouraged and helped himself. In the past Mimi would push any talented student he came across but now, on top of this, Mimi has taken teaching a little more seriously by taking on four lessons a week, with the girls at the school of the Sisters of Nazareth, some of whom emerged as talented individuals at the exhibition of their work arranged by Mimi at the French Cultural Centre last month.

Finally Mimi has two 'hobbies' at which he is probably more productive than some others are at their professions. His fashion designing - an interest started when he used to take time off from the studios in London to attend the College of Fashion in Oxford Street - is based on a philosophy that Mimi has drawn for himself from the study of fashion through the ages. Some results have been successful, for example when he won first prize for his creation 'Journey to the Desert' in a 1977 Amman fashion show. Mimi designs for Lebanese magazines, writes fashion articles for the Arabic press and fashion shows are often the subject for his TV programmes.

In all his interests Mimi writes what he needs for himself - but

his writing stretches further than that. Over the years he has written and published short stories and had some of his plays performed on television and radio.

With his writing ends this catalogue of Mimi's achievements, which covers probably one half, and certainly only a fraction of what he will go on to achieve - Mimi is still only 31 years old. Through his many and diverse talents Mimi has already contributed much to Jordanian society. His creativity and energy are formidable qualities which are deceptively wrapped in the self-deprecating, gentle, kind and welcoming envelope that so many people have come to know and respect.

From his meteoric rise in the world of broadcasting to an avid interest in art--both reducing and collecting--Fuad Mimi is a man of formidable creativity and energy.



Mimi's paintings display a tenacious figurative style.

Mu'ta University: bringing opportunity to the south

AMMAN - Plans for the establishment of Mu'ta University near Karak are going a head at full speed.

Now that the land has been purchased by the government, it is expected that the design of the university's campus will start August.

To help out with the construction cost, the Iraqi government has donated JD 15 million. This money will be used to cover part of the expenses of the building.

Mu'ta University, the third institution of its kind in Jordan, will be more military and police-oriented than the other two universities in the country. The students (only boys are going to be accepted) will undergo rigorous training in martial exercises. Military and police training there will run side-by-side with the usual academic courses.

According to Mr. Ali Safadi, secretary of the special royal committee preparing plans for the university, "Jordan is in need of military and police degree holders. Instead of sending our people outside for higher education, they can get it right here."

Martial skills stressed

The university will be a replica of world-renowned military academies, and students will be given instruction and training in the basic martial and police skills.

Over a year ago, a special royal committee was formed with the purpose of looking into the possibility of setting up this new university in the south.

Presided over by former prime minister and current Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi, the committee has been carrying out detailed surveys to find out the needs both of the people in the south and of Jordanians as a whole.

For many years, the south has been isolated, due to its distance from the centre of development in the northern part of Jordan. Although efforts have been made to include it in more development

Plans for a third Jordanian university at Mu'ta stress the provision of academic along with military and police skills to students from the southern regions, DINA MATAR reports.

plans, much more is still to be done.

Students from Karak, Aqaba and other southern areas have always found it difficult to commute to the two universities in the north, and most had to leave their families to pursue their education.

"Mu'ta University will solve not only one problem," Mr. Safadi told the Jordan Times. "Not only will it be the centre of technology and development in the south, but it will offer opportunities for higher education to students in the area."

The university's site was chosen because Mu'ta has a special historical significance, as the place

where Islam won its first battle.

Aiming to improve the educational status of the south, the university planners also intend to turn out a number of enthusiastic young graduates knowledgeable in military skills, martial arts, basic defence skills and police work.

All the students will be living in the dorms on the university's campus, Mr. Safadi. "To ensure disciplined graduates, we want all of our students to live in the hostels, specially built to accommodate them all," Mr. Safadi said.

For the students, the day will start with rigorous exercises in the morning followed by regular les-

sons, and then some instruction in the use of armaments, as well as practice in self-defence techniques.

"Of course, the students will be instructed in the ins and outs of the technological aspects of modern martial techniques," Mr. Safadi added.

The annual intake of students is seen as possibly reaching 1,250, but the exact number of students is still unknown.

Graduates on the way

According to a royal decree, Royal Police Academy in Amman is considered a faculty of Mu'ta University, and this year the first batch of graduates will proudly receive their bachelor's degrees. Around 56 students will be graduating by the end of this summer. "We can safely say that our dreams are have been partially realised," Mr. Safadi says.

Mu'ta University has now become a reality. But the teaching programmes and the system of instruction have not yet been finalised. Some of the planners think that, until the campus is completed, instruction can be carried out in temporary quarters. "But this is not definite yet," Mr. Safadi said.

Some of the students will be studying on a scholarship basis, and others will pay their own tuition fees. "But all are required to take obligatory military and police training," Mr. Safadi said.

Although some people have been sceptical about the establishment of yet a third university in the country (about 3,000 students graduate each year from the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University and some turn out jobless), Mu'ta University backers feel that such a facility is essential.

"Mu'ta graduates will be a different kind of person," Mr. Safadi said. "They will basically serve the army and the police; some will find other jobs. But all the students will have the advantage of being trained in military and police skills."

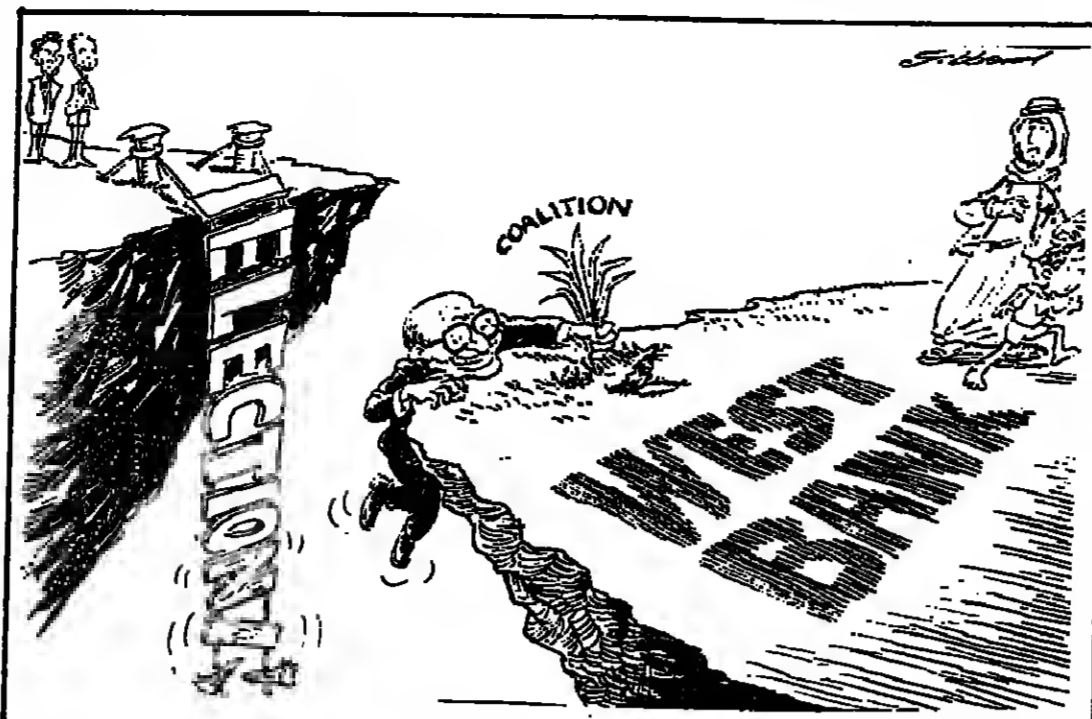
On the other hand, the university will improve the local community in the south, where such leading institutions are still lacking.



Faces of Fuad Mimi: in a portrait photo (above) and painting by and Aziz Amoura (below)



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POLITICAL HORIZON

The Knesset elections

By Kamel S. Abu Jaber

THERE IS NO DOUBT that the elections to the tenth Israeli Knesset attracted world-wide attention. This is particularly true in the West, in general and in the United States, in particular. For the Arab World the elections were significant because they gave an indication of the sense of direction among the Israeli population, as well as the persons who will be in positions of power in Israel for the future.

Realising that ultimately there is little difference between the two major political groupings in Israel, the average Arab was still curious as to the ultimate winner, if any, and also to the style with which the affairs of the state of Israel would be conducted over the next few years. It is well to remember that Jerusalem was annexed, settlements established, Arab houses blown up and Arab leaders banished under the leadership of the Labour Bloc from 1967 to 1977. The Arabs are also aware that as far as the Palestine problem is concerned, the end result is the same; only the method and the style differ between Labour and the Likud.

All the above reservations notwithstanding, the elections still held a fascination. They showed that Israeli foreign policy is the same, whether the ruling party was Labour or Likud. Here were the Zionists, in Palestine, voting to choose their government and their style of governance, presumably for the next four years. This in stark contrast to lack of elections in most Arab countries. The campaign and the ensuing results were significant for the domestic and, most likely eventually the foreign, politics of Israel. Several important features distinguish it from previous elections. One is the voting trend towards two major parties, which ultimately meant the diminishing vote, though not the importance of, the small parties.

The second major feature is the increasing importance of the Likud which increased the seats in held from 43 in the previous elections of May 1977 to 48 seats now. It would seem that the vote was not so much against Begin, as it was against small splinter political parties. If anything, Mr. Begin and his Likud coalition have reason to congratulate themselves on not only sustaining the loyalty of the Israeli voter, but also of increasing it substantially.

This is the more obvious, since Mr. Begin will remain, as the most important figure in Israeli politics until the next election. In government, or in opposition, his importance has increased. If anything his reelection with increased popularity and seats in the Knesset prove that his previous record is approved by a substantial proportion of the Israeli public. It would also prove that his election in 1977 was not an angry protest election against Labour only, but an election for Begin and the Likud as well. In other words, the 1977 election was not an aberration.

The third feature of this election was the extent and the way the Arab vote went. Unlike previous elections, the Arab voter swung his vote to the Labour coalition and away from protest Left parties. Reasons for this are many, though chief among them is the desire to oust Mr. Begin out of power. Surely the desire to vote Mr. Begin out was a vote against what the Arabs of Israel thought was a vote against Fascism. Mr. Mohammad Watal elected in the Labour list stated that the reason for the Arab vote for Labour was a sign of maturity. The Arab voter is no longer satisfied with protest vote.

A fourth feature of this election was the increased popularity, and also seats, received by the Labour coalition. So the increase was dramatic and very substantial; from 32 seats in the ninth to 47 seats in the tenth elections. Again Mr. Pines, like Mr. Begin, has reason to congratulate himself on the substantial success. He knows whether in government or in opposition will remain a most important figure in Israeli politics until the next elections.

The elections were both chaotic and inconclusive. In one sense they have identified the major political trends of Israel for the next few years. Those who voted for the Likud no doubt voted in foreign policy issues, while those who voted for Labour, voted mostly for domestic socio-economic issues. Otherwise, how can we explain the Arab Labour vote when in foreign policy it differed little from Likud?

The elections may turn out to be transitional leading to another election within a short time. Unless a national coalition can be forged which would doubtfully be unacceptable to Labour, elections will have to be conducted again before the four-year constitutional provision.

In any case the elections have demonstrated the desire of the Israelis to hold on to the occupied West Bank and Jerusalem and to continue to prosecute in any serious attempt in reaching a peaceful settlement. They should serve as a new lesson in the Arabs who still without plan, direction or organisation.

Bolivia's aborted coup dims prospects for democratic rule

LA PAZ — The failure of the latest military attempt to oust Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza appears to have dimmed the prospects of a return to democracy in the foreseeable future as well as a crackdown on drug trafficking.

The leaders of Saturday's attempted coup, the third in six weeks, were two senior army generals who favoured a return to constitutional government. They advocated a clean-up of the armed forces, where some leaders have been linked to the cocaine industry. They are now in exile, along with the cream of this impoverished country's political establishment.

When he seized power 11 months ago, Gen. Garcia Meza abruptly ended Bolivia's latest effort to return to constitutional rule. He said the armed forces would stay in power for 20 years if necessary to correct what he described as political chaos introduced by civilian politicians.

After the civilian opposition was silenced by being forced out of the country, Gen. Garcia Meza came under fire from some fellow officers. They accused him of turning a blind eye to the alleged involvement of some of his military colleagues in the booming cocaine trade and isolating Bolivia.

Col. Emilio Lanza, a paratroop commander who accused the government of widespread corruption, led two uprisings last month from the southern city of Cochabamba. Both rebellions were quickly checked but the president eventually announced that he would step down in August.

Then on the eve of the latest coup attempt, he unexpectedly told military units that he might stay on until December. The announcement precipitated the rebellion that was headed by the army commander, Gen. Humberto Cajoja and army chief-of-staff, Gen. Lucio Anez.

Gen. Cajoja, 48, a U.S.-trained officer, was appointed army chief in a major shake-up that followed Col. Lanza's second uprising. The shake-up also involved Gen. Anez. Both men became potential successors to Gen. Garcia and spoke strongly in favour of cleaning up the armed forces. They advocated a return to constitutional rule.

Bolivia is one of the world's major cocaine producers and the drug is reliably reported to earn the country close to \$1 billion a year, more than tin which is traditionally the main export item.

In a bid last March to restore the government's image abroad and placate Washington, Gen. Garcia Meza dismissed the interior and education ministers who were believed by the U.S. drug enforcement agency to be involved in the trade. More recently, the government announced that 20 officers were being investigated in connection with drug smuggling. The drug allegations led the United States to withhold diplomatic recognition. Washington also suspended support for Bolivia's anti-narcotics programme and froze \$250 million in planned aid over the next three years.

Venezuela and Ecuador, fellow members in the Andean Pact, have not recognised the military government either. They accused it of widespread human rights violations.

Bolivia's image has angered many officers. Some believe that the only way out of its problems is a return to democratic rule.

Gen. Cajoja told foreign correspondents 10 days before his attempted coup that the main objective of the armed forces was to restore democracy. He thought this could be achieved within the next four years following the drawing up of a new constitution and reform of the polling system, allowing for a French-style second round in presidential elections.

The inconclusive result of a presidential poll in which the eventual winner had to be chosen by parliament amid prolonged bickering triggered Gen. Garcia Meza's coup last July. It was the 189th coup in Bolivia's 156 years of independence from Spain.

Before he left for exile in Buenos Aires, Gen. Anez told reporters the coup failed because of last-minute treason by officers involved in the plot. He said they had been "bought", but did not elaborate.

Racism, again...

THE WESTERN financial world is being titillated by the current battle to take over control of the American oil company Conoco. The latest offer is that of the U.S. subsidiary of the Canadian firm Seagram, which is fighting it out with the giant chemical manufacturer DuPont for control of Conoco. The latest Seagram offer is worth \$3.77 billion. We are surprised that there are so few voices in the United States warning against the Seagram offer. If Arab investors had made the same bid, would we have the same placid reaction from the United States? Probably not. If Kuwaiti or Saudi Arabian or Qatari investors had tried to buy control of Conoco, we would have heard an uproar about how the Arabs are trying to take over American industry. But, it is OK for a Canadian whisky manufacturer to take over American industry. Therefore the sensitivity in the United States is not over foreign control of American firms per se; it is about Arab control of American firms. Americans who claim that their country is not racist should quietly ponder the implications of this case.

A similar example is the recent American agreement to sell Egypt two large nuclear reactors, hot on the heels of the obvious American lack of concern about the Israeli attack against Iraq's nuclear reactor. The lesson is clear: In American eyes, there are "good" Arabs and "bad" Arabs, just as there have always been good blacks and bad blacks in the eyes of the American power structure. Egypt is a good Arab. Iraq is a bad Arab. Egypt is allowed nuclear reactors. Iraq is not. Racism once again, and officially sanctioned by American foreign policy. How strange. How un-American. Don't you think so, Senator Cranston?

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'IK: The savage Israeli air raids on Lebanon yesterday and on Friday ought to be viewed in the light of Philip Habib's mission as well as in the light of the efforts of the Arab quadripartite committee to achieve a settlement of the Lebanese crisis.

With regard to Philip Habib's mission, Israel is escalating its attacks against Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance to remind Washington that no settlement can be achieved in Lebanon without Israeli consent, which will not be forthcoming unless Israel achieves all the gains it set out to acquire when it interfered in Lebanon.

On the other hand, the Arab quadripartite committee's efforts have improved the security situation in Lebanon, thus paving the way for fruitful dialogue among the conflicting Lebanese parties, a dialogue which many hope will lead to political detente and complete national accord.

Begin's government realises that such a positive atmosphere in Lebanon was largely due to the undertaking of certain Lebanese parties to sever all links with the Zionist entity, thus putting an end to all Zionist intervention in Lebanon. Clearly, the Israeli air raids aim at dictating Zionist conditions to all the quarters which are trying to achieve a settlement to the Lebanese crisis. This was clearly stated by Israeli deputy defence minister, who declared yesterday that the first condition for halting Israeli attacks against Lebanon is the "expulsion of the Palestinians" and halting their activities in Lebanon.

Lebanon is facing an enormously difficult situation as a result of Israeli intransigence. The Arab Nation is called on to shoulder its responsibilities to help Lebanon overcome its predicament and enable the Palestinian Resistance to continue its just and honourable battle of confronting Zionist aggression.

ALDUSTOUR: According to reports from London, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who had accepted an invitation to a dinner banquet given in her honour by the Arab ambassadors in London, withdrew her acceptance of the invitation and cancelled the banquet when she realised that the PLO representative was one of the guests.

There have also been reports that British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington has finally "graciously conceded" to meet with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The Arab reader cannot be overwhelmed by the ridiculous irony of such reports. It is Britain which wronged the Arabs so grossly by being responsible for the Balfour declaration and which has an unpleasantly remembered history of colonialism in the region. It was Britain that brutally put down the uprisings of the Palestinian people as they tried to prevent the Judaisation of their country. It was also Britain that supervised the establishment of Israel on Arab, Palestinian soil and imposed the legislative system which Israel still uses to persecute our people in the occupied lands.

In spite of Britain's black history in our country, the Arab ambassadors attempted to honour its prime minister, who cancelled the banquet for no other reason than the inclusion of the PLO representative among the guests.

It would have been understandable for Britain to try and honour the Arab ambassadors, since it is so eager to hold on to Arab investments in its banks and to sign contracts with wealthy Arab buyers. It would have been equally understandable for the Arab ambassador to reject these British overtures, or for PLO chairman Yasser Arafat to decline an invitation to meet with Lord Carrington. For the opposite to have happened, however, is an unforgettable insult to the dignity of this Nation. The pain of this insult is deepened by the fact that not one Arab country, president or ambassador has given Mrs. Thatcher an honest opinion concerning her stand and her country's despicable history in dealing with us as Menachem Begin saw fit to do with Giscard d'Estaing and Helmut Schmidt.

Argentina's downward spiral

The new men at the controls are struggling to pull Argentina out of its economic nosedive, reports Hugh O'Shaughnessy.

BUENOS AIRES: The Argentine switchback is hurtling downwards again. The value of the peso has been dropping by the hour and, at around 7,800 to the dollar on the free market, it retains only about 25 per cent of the value it commanded at the beginning of the year when it stood at 2,000 to the dollar.

There is a very real possibility of a return to the hyperinflation of five years ago. Bankruptcies, running at three times the rate of last year, are now so endemic as to be shaking the foundations of the Argentine economic and banking structure.

Some 4.2 million people — about 40 per cent of the workforce are unemployed, working for a few hours a week or engaged in economically insignificant activities. About two dozen of the country's medium and smaller banks are in difficulties, according to reliable financial sources.

Foreign banks are worrying about their loans. Foreign companies with large operations here they include most of the world's big names, from Ford to Lloyds Bank, from Fiat to BAT Industries — are also worried about the present slump. And they fear that a new wave of nationalism and xenophobia could come in the wake of Argentine economic collapse.

No one is really sure how much further the switchback has to go or whose hands are on the controls. The one consolation is the sheer potential of the country, which is the size of Western Europe and within an ace of being self-sufficient in oil and gas. It is also a major food exporter and has a highly educated workforce capable of growing its own crop of Nobel prizewinners.

The roots of the present problem go back some way. In 1976, President Maria Estela "Isabelita" Peron, widow of the late General Peron, was attempting to grapple with little success with a political and economic situation which had gone from the chaotic to the disastrous. In the first months of 1976, inflation crept towards 60 per cent a month as profligate spending pushed the budget deficit towards 25 per cent of the gross national product and economic activity of any sort became very difficult.

In March of that year, the armed forces stepped in. General Jorge Videla seized the presidency and bundled "Isabelita" off to house arrest. Congress was closed, the Left and the political centre were repressed with extreme ruthlessness and a start made on re-imposing conservative financial orthodoxy.

General Videla appointed as his minister of economy Dr. Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz, who instituted a regime of austerity with high interest rates, the destruction of the high tariff walls behind which Argentine industry had grown and sometimes prospered over the previous decades and particular concessions to the agricultural sector.

Foreign business confidence immediately revived, and on a tour of Europe in late 1976, Dr. Martinez de Hoz was rapturously received by business audiences. From then on, almost until March 29 this year, when he followed General Videla into retirement, Dr. Martinez de Hoz — dubbed by his friends "The Wizard of Hoz" — chalked up many successes.

As the Videla-Martinez de Hoz partnership moved into its fifth year, however, cracks began to appear. Domestic industry was forced into grave crisis by the over-valued peso and the unacceptably low tariff wall. GNP, which in 1979 rose by more than 8 per cent, was stagnant in 1980. The signs of this year's financial crisis came with the bankruptcy of the Banco de Intercambio Regional, one of the fastest-growing financial institutions in a competitive market, and of Saseni, a billion-dollar industrial and financial conglomerate.

The impending departure of the General and the Doctor raised worries about who were going to succeed them. These worries were not allayed when the military decided that the new president to succeed the puritanical Videla would be the easy-going General Roberto Viola, or when General Viola chose Dr. Lorenzo Sigaut as his economy minister. Many observers saw Dr. Sigaut as something of a political lightweight. The Right was distrustful of General Viola's commitment to push ahead with plans for the eventual return of the country to civilian government.

The incoming team, who took over on March 29, had to wrestle with inflation which, at more than 80 per cent a year, was nowhere near the low levels which Dr. Martinez de Hoz had pledged himself to achieve. A large part of the inflation was to be blamed on continuing high levels of government spending, notably the armed forces' demands for new arms for possible hostilities with Chile.

Informed guesses about the cost of arms purchases in the Videla period range from \$5 billion to \$11 billion.

Over the past six years, all this has left local industry between the devil and the deep blue sea. Saab-Scania, with a modern plant in the north of the country, saw its local production costs so inflated by the strong peso in 1980 that it was producing vehicle chassis locally for three times the price at which they could be imported. Production thus fell and men were laid off.

In the tractor industry it was the same story. In 1977, for instance, Deutz, Fiat, John Deere and Massey Ferguson produced 25,845 units, of which nearly 2,000 were exported. Last year the same four companies turned out no more than 3,658 units, of which 800 were exported. In the first four months of 1981, an industry which has the productive capacity of 30,000 tractors a year managed to build only 279 units.

Foreign industrial companies could at least import what they could not produce economically in Argentina. Argentine industrialists who did not have such opportunities, and who were very often working with less modern plants than the big international companies, saw themselves facing ruin. Many, indeed, are all but ruined.

Mr. Jacques Kirsch, the president of UIA (Argentine Industrial Union), has been frantically calling for financial help for his members' factories. "Argentine industry is in the throes of a very high fever. We need help in days or, at worst, weeks. We can't survive months of waiting for help," he commented.

He has proposed a plan under which the government would re-discount half of industry's debts to the banks over 10 years, with a seven-year grace period. This would assist firms in difficulties and would remove a great burden of bad debt from the banking sector, where one highly-placed financial authority says that some two-dozen of the medium and smaller banks are on the verge of insolvency.

Faced with this, General Viola and Dr. Sigaut are in a quandary. They want to help, but fear that any sweeping measures would stoke the fire of an inflation which is already running well beyond 100 per cent a year. "The UIA plan, as it stands, is a monetary absurdity. We will be helping industry, but not like that," says Dr. Sigaut.

The economic team expects a massive devaluation of the peso to lead to an export-led boom which will have the factories humming a few months' time. They do hope that the credits recently granted to the farm sector will yield a harvest 50 per cent higher than the record crop of 2 million tonnes of cereals which being brought in this year.

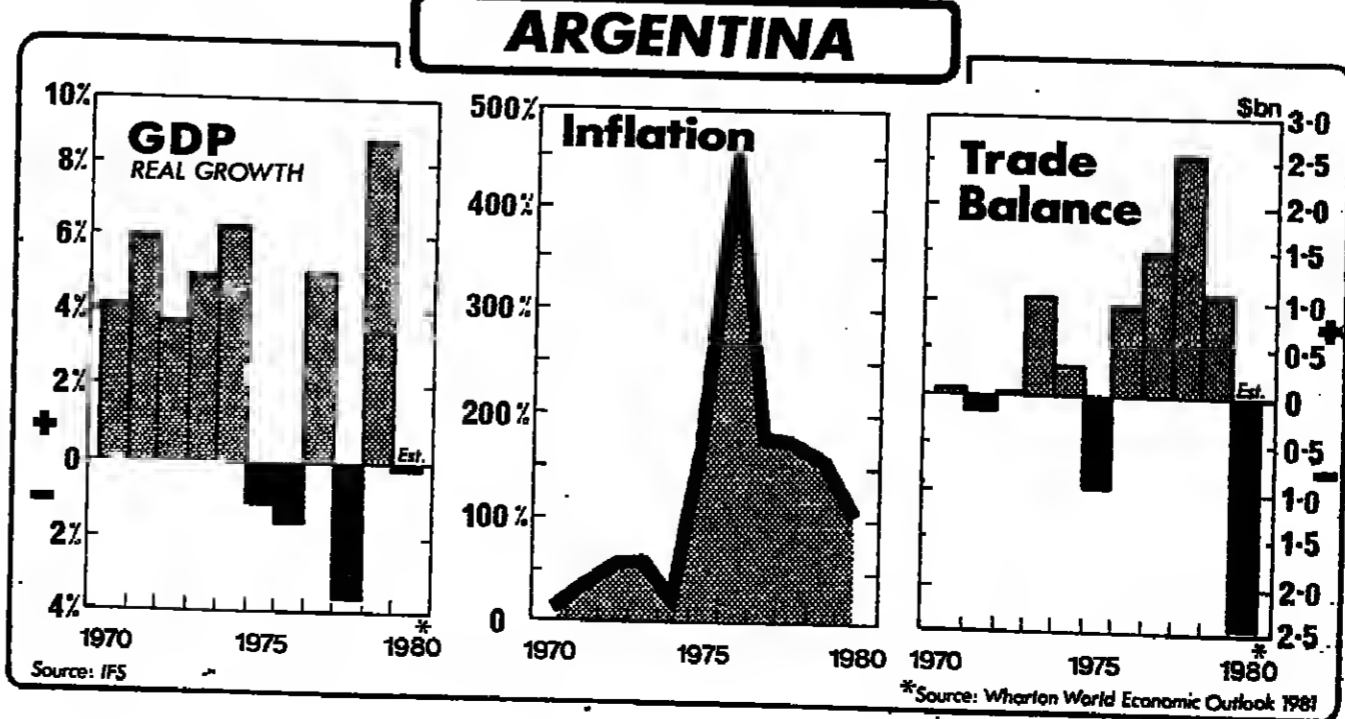
Meanwhile, they argue, the low value of the peso will attract foreign investors to buy assets which were grossly overvalued when the peso was riding high. "I have a list of foreign companies which are going to invest \$300 million in Argentina in the course of this month," says Dr. Hugo Lamonia, the Under-Secretary of Finance, confidentially.

The government also argues that Argentines will not longer be able to splurge their money of foreign travel as they did under General Videla and that, on the contrary, Argentina will once again be drawing in Brazilians and other Latin Americans for cheap holidays and bargain shopping in Buenos Aires.

But prudent observers feel that the upswing will take some time to make itself felt. They doubt that foreign investors are all that eager to put money into Argentina at the moment. Their doubts are borne out by the reluctance of foreign merchant banks and clearing banks to recommend Argentina as a good investment prospect. "We are going a bit cautious on Argentina at the moment," said one British banker. "We don't see it as a good immediate prospect."

Others doubt whether Argentine industry or the farm sector is sufficiently agile to respond to the new competitive exchange rate and start exporting new lines immediately. Yet others fear that however promising the agricultural sector may look at the moment, next year's crops will always be subject to the vagaries of the weather.

The older-established foreign companies in Argentina have seen similar economic cataclysms in the past. But they take the long view that there is no alternative to sticking out the present period in the hope that one day the sub-leoposter will start climbing again.



مكتبة الامم المتحدة

مكتبة الامم

Sadat accuses Zionists, U.S. groups of trying to smear his image

CAIRO, July 13 (R) — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat today accused American pressure groups and Zionist elements of trying to smear his image and undermine his talks with President Reagan in Washington next month.

In an interview with the weekly newspaper *Maya*, organ of his long National Democratic Party (NDP), Mr. Sadat said his first 5 meeting with President Reagan, the first between the two men, would deal with ways to promote peace.

"This was not to the liking of some Zionist elements and American pressure groups who wanted to embarrass me before the American people and their new president," he said.

Mr. Sadat was referring to an American television network programme from Cairo last week which compared him to the former Shah of Iran and his regime before it was ousted by the Islamic revolution.

"I can't say it (the network) did this (programme) in good faith. American pressure groups and Zionist elements were behind it," Mr. Sadat said.

He also said Egyptian opposition groups who rejected the peace treaty with Israel helped these elements.

In a letter to parliament today, the president asked the speaker to investigate the attitude of the bar association council, which poses the treaty with Israel.

Mr. Sadat, accusing the council of distorting Egypt's image, asked parliament to publish the outcome of its inquiry. Council chairman, Mr. Ahmed Al Khawage rejected the inquiry at a hastily summoned press conference and said it was illegal and unconstitutional.

"We are men of law. If we have committed a crime, we are prepared to stand trial in a court of law. Members of parliament do not replace courts of law," he said.

About 200 lawyers have staged a sit-in strike at the association since June 26 in the council's dispute with Mr. Sadat over the peace treaty with Israel.

Mr. Khawage said a protest march by the lawyers to parliament today was cancelled because they could not obtain police permission on grounds that it would disturb public peace.

Smuggling in Turkey: Guns traded for drugs

By Ayse Sariglin

ANKARA — An ancient Turkish proverb counsels a man never to surrender his horse, his woman and his weapon, and Turks admit they are still a gun-loving people.

But when an anti-aircraft gun and several rocket launchers turned up among the hundreds of thousands of firearms smuggled in for terrorist groups, they agreed that this was carrying things too far.

Since last September's coup, when the military brushed aside the politicians who had been unable to stop fierce factional fighting, there has been time to take stock of the amount and source of the vast, mainly smuggled, underground armory that built up.

More than 450,000 firearms have been seized from left-wing and right-wing extremist groups. In addition, more law-abiding citizens handed in 160,000 guns in response to a weapons amnesty.

Guns were found everywhere, though perhaps the most startling hiding place was a chandelier in one of the state theatres.

The head of state, Gen. Kenan Evren, estimated the total value of recovered weapons at a \$250 million, an indication of the profits open to the gun-runner.

The country's only armaments factory at Kırıkkale near Ankara produces weapons mainly for the armed forces.

The factory produced only a tiny fraction of the terrorists' weaponry.

Before the September 12 coup smugglers found little difficulty in bringing in their merchandise at points on the 2,700 kms of land borders and 8,300 kms of coast

lines to feed ever-hungry terrorist cells.

Tracking down the source of the arms, whether the disinterested gun-runner or the politically-motivated force inside or outside Turkey, is a painstaking and so far inconclusive process.

Evidence in a book recently published by journalist Ugur Mumcu, which quotes official Turkish documents, suggests that neighbouring Bulgaria and Syria were frequently used as channels for smuggling arms.

Other press reports in Turkey have indicated the same routes. The independent daily newspaper *Hurriyet* reported that in 1977, for example, the Turkish authorities discovered a large number of Argentine weapons and asked Argentina to trace the buyers. The message came back that they were bought by Bulgaria, *Hurriyet* reported.

When approached by Turkey, Bulgarian authorities denied the suggestion, but promised to look into ways of curbing any smuggling that might go on.

Turkey made a similar approach to Syrian Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam when he visited Ankara earlier this year. A few weeks previously a Russian-made anti-aircraft gun was found in south-east Turkey, not far from the Syrian frontier.

Syria's response appears to have been favourable, for Turkish security forces have begun removing mines laid along the frontier to stop smugglers.

Just who put up the money for the guns is not yet clear, though Mr. Mumcu and others believe many of the purchases were financed

by the proceeds of drug-smuggling from the far east across Turkey to Western Europe.

Hurriyet reported the military authorities had asked the governments of major European arms making countries, including Belgium, West Germany, Spain and Italy to check on the buyers of weapons which ended up on Turkey's streets.

The answers indicated that middlemen made the sales and their clients could not be traced.

As to the thousands of East European weapons, including the Kalashnikov AK47, military spokesmen have declined to point the finger explicitly at the Soviet Union.

But the frequent references by officials to "external interference" in the same breath as condemnation of communism leaves little doubt as to whom they believe was one of the main suppliers of the illicit gun market.

Details of the extent of official involvement in smuggling came to light in March when the chief military prosecutor published charges of corruption against Mr. Tuncay Mataraci, the government's customs minister in 1979.

The most serious allegation states that Mr. Mataraci, who is now on trial, "appointed selected personnel to key customs posts in line with the wishes of smugglers and received bribes from them."

The prosecutor said Mr. Mataraci received \$1.5 million in bri-

bes, mostly from smugglers, and has called for him to be jailed for 36 years.

The indictment said Mr. Mataraci appointed chosen men at customs points on the Syrian and Greek frontiers after substantial kickbacks from smugglers.

Mr. Mataraci has rejected the charges and is defending himself against them.

The indictment linked Mr. Mataraci with leaders of Turkey's powerful underworld, including the co-defendant, Mr. Abuzer Ugurlu.

Mr. Ugurlu, 38, is listed in Interpol files as a wanted international drugs pedlar, according to police sources here. However he was wanted here for arms smuggling.

It was Mr. Ugurlu who gave Mr. Mataraci \$100,000 to appoint a trusted man at the Ipsala crossing point on the Greek border, the prosecutor alleges.

Mr. Ugurlu, his father and three brothers were described by a smuggler in a letter of confession to the police as "the gang which dominated smuggling in Turkey in the last seven or eight years."

Five days after he gave police that evidence in a letter, Mr. Ibrahim Telemen, a small-time smuggler, was killed in a mysterious fall from the seventh-floor window of an Istanbul hotel.

Mr. Telemen specifically mentioned Bulgaria as a staging post for arms to Turkey, whether East

or West European, according to his letter quoted in the Mataraci trial.

He said small coastal boats plied Bulgarian and Turkish ports with loads of weapons.

Mr. Mumcu, recognised as a leading authority on weapons and drugs smuggling in Turkey, draws a direct link between guns and drugs smuggling.

"If we compare the amount of confiscated drugs with the quantity of arms and ammunition seized and kept in mind there have been about 5,000 deaths from political violence in the last five years,

the supply and demand equilibrium of the terrorism market becomes evident," he wrote.

"The fact that people like Mr. Ugurlu are involved in both arms and drugs smuggling shows that the two-way traffic involving Turkey is one of arms for drugs", he added.

Narcotics police say about 14 tonnes of drugs, mainly heroin and hashish, have been seized in Turkey in the last seven years on the westward route from producer states like Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan.

Reuters

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Arafat arrives in Iraq

RUT, July 13 (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat arrived in Iraq today to attend an official "Solidarity with Iraq" conference, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported from Baghdad.

He will also have talks with Iraqi leaders. Palestinian commando has been trying to arrange an early Arab summit to face a new Israeli challenge.

The "Solidarity with Iraq" conference was called after Israeli raid on Iraq's nuclear reactor on June 7.

A said it would be "an important step towards exposing American-Zionist conspiracies against the Arab nation." It did not name the participants.

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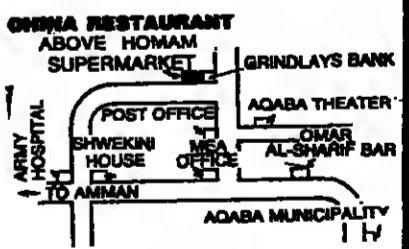
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ECONOMY

Dollar falls against major currencies

LONDON, July 13 (R) — The dollar weakened against all major currencies today amid mounting speculation that interest rates in the United States will soon move lower.

The speculation was triggered by figures released on Friday by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board which show a slowing-up in the rate of expansion of the money supply. Dealers in foreign exchange believe this could signal a decline in American interest rates from the present near-record levels.

The dollar was quoted on foreign exchange markets at 2.4200 West German marks, below Friday's 2.4428 and last week's four-and-a-half-year high of 2.4740.

Sterling rose by more than one cent soon after markets opened although fears that recent widespread rioting might lead to a change in British economic policy later caused it to weaken to \$1.8985. But this was still higher than Friday's 1.8985. The government has been following a tough anti-inflation line and the riots have been partly attributed to high unemployment.

The French franc also rose to 5.7700 to the dollar from 5.855 last Friday and was well above last week's 23-year low of 5.8700.

The gold price, after recovering late last week from its recent weakness caused by a strong dollar, lost some ground today.

The London morning fixing price by bullion houses was \$417.75 an ounce \$1.25 above Friday afternoon's fix but slightly down on Friday's closing 418.50.

Later the price retreated to \$415.75 — still well up on last week's low when the metal sagged below \$400 dollars for the first time in 19 months.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

\$600m joint venture in the Gulf

BAHRAIN, July 13 (R) — Three Gulf countries will sign an agreement tomorrow to build a large plant in Bahrain to process heavy fuel oil into lighter and more valuable products, the Bahrain industry ministry said today.

Officials told Reuters the plant, estimated to cost in the region of \$600 million, would have a capacity to process about 80,000 barrels of fuel oil a day.

The agreement will be signed tomorrow in Taif, Saudi Arabia, by Saudi Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Kuwaiti Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah and Bahrain Industry Minister Yusuf Shirawi.

The plant will process fuel oil produced by refineries in the three shareholding countries and export the resulting naphtha, light fuel oil and other products. The officials said it should be in operation within five years.

The three countries signed another agreement in February to build a \$400 million petrochemicals plant in Bahrain. Bahrain already has a 250,000 barrels-a-day refinery that processes crude oil from the country's own oilfields and from Saudi Arabia.

Italy's stock markets reopen

MILAN, July 13 (R) — Share prices fell sharply when the Milan stock exchange reopened today after being closed for four days last week because of a price collapse.

Fiat shares lost 6.4 per cent, Pirelli 5.3 per cent and Montedison 3.5 per cent, while shares of a number of less important companies plunged more than 20 per cent without attracting buyers, dealers said.

Last week's closure of Italy's stock markets, of which Milan is the most important, was the first since 1917. The price collapse which began in June was caused by a flood of selling by speculators.

Today's falls may have been due to selling planned before the closure of the markets and did not necessarily indicate a longer-term trend, dealers commented.

Last Saturday the Italian government announced various technical measures to try to stabilise share prices.

Oman faces a fall in oil sales

BAHRAIN, July 13 (R) — Oman faces a fall in oil sales after failing to agree a price cut with customers, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said today.

MEES said Oman, which is a small producer and not a member of OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries), first sought \$37.50 a barrel and then \$36.50 for the third quarter of the year. Previously it charged \$38.50.

But its customers said that because of the world oil glut they would not pay more than more than \$34 to \$35.

Oman, which produces about 300,000 barrels a day, about an eighth of North Sea output, had given notice it was ending its contract with several Japanese companies, MEES said. Shell Oil was to have further talks with Oman.

UAE oil output drops

ABU DHABI, July 13 (R) — Oil production in Abu Dhabi in the first quarter of this year totalled 109.3 million barrels, down 12.3 per cent over the same period last year, the Central Bank said today.

Dubai's output also fell by 99,000 barrels to 31 million barrels, the bank's report carried by the official Emirates news agency said.

Abu Dhabi's output in the first quarter of 1980 amounted to 124.6 million barrels.

The report did not explain the reduced production. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has since January this year twice cut output to conserve its oil wealth and to comply with OPEC's recent decision to slash production by a minimum of 10 per cent because of world oil market glut.

Abu Dhabi and Dubai are the main oil producers in the seven state UAE.

Washington prepares answers to would-be queries at Ottawa

WASHINGTON, July 13 (R) — The United States will call on other industrial countries at next week's Ottawa summit to reduce their use of export subsidies, Treasury Secretary Donald Regan said today.

"We will urge our trading partners to cool it as far as subsidising their exports," Mr. Regan said at a briefing here on the July 19-21 meeting of the heads of the seven major industrial democracies.

Asked what trouble spots might come up at the summit, Mr. Regan answered: "The most obvious one is high interest rates in the United States."

The treasury secretary said the United States would try to explain to the other countries that high interest rates were a necessary side effect in the Reagan Administration's battle against inflation.

But he said President Ronald Reagan would also tell the other leaders that high interest rates were a temporary phenomenon and "not a weapon that the United States is using against its partners."

Mr. Regan will accompany the president and Secretary of State Alexander Haig to Canada to meet leaders from France, Canada, Britain, West Germany, Japan and Italy.

Noting that four of the seven leaders would be attending their first summit, Mr. Regan said he did not expect any specific agreements to emerge from the meeting.

"This would be more of a get-acquainted session," the treasury secretary said.

Mr. Regan said the summit would be used primarily as a forum for the leaders to discuss their individual economies and the problems that confronted them.

Landmark in oil storage

LONDON, July 13 (R) — A supertanker has been installed as permanent oil store of an offshore field in the North Sea, pioneering new technique for collecting oil in hazardous waters, Shell oil company said today.

The linkup of the 210,000-tonne Medora to an oil pipeline in the Fulmar field makes a supply pipeline to shore unnecessary. The new method provides an economic way of collecting oil from inaccessible fields.

Stable mooring of the tanker in hostile seas meant solving several technical problems, Shell said. The mooring point of steel piles on the sea floor has to hold the Medora steady in waves of up to 26 metres and winds of nearly 160 kilometres an hour.

Shell, which operates the field on behalf of a consortium, said one of the tanker's stores was "a landmark in the use of new production systems which will be necessary if Britain is to develop the oil reserves needed to keep it self-sufficient."

China rethinks its special economic zones

By Kevin Rafferty

China is working on large scale revisions of its laws in an effort to boost foreign investments particularly in the special economic zones in the south.

From recent statements made in Peking, Canton and Hong Kong, it is clear that China acknowledges that it needs to make more use of foreign help in modernising the country and that present regulations are not effective enough.

Indications are that widespread changes may soon be in order, at least in the special economic zones. These may include lower taxes, greater freedom for management to hire and fire labour, more flexible wage payments systems to encourage greater productivity and easier immigration procedures.

Mr. Ren Zhongyi, first secretary of the Guangdong Communist Party, was recently quoted by Xinhua, the Chinese news agency, as saying that his province was considering cutting taxes on income earned by overseas businessmen investing in joint ventures. In addition, customs duties on imported production equipment could be reduced or even remitted. Mr. Ren said that the southern province would become "more open and flexible."

The People's Daily also quoted the Guangdong first secretary as saying that the province should work harder to bring in industrial reforms to enliven the economy and that bureaucrats should overcome what he called "selfish departmentalism".

He was frank about some of the difficulties. "Currently there are many disputes between province and city, industry and commerce, industry and trade, internal and external trade", he admitted. "There is much wrangling about trifles, and some people often exercise their 'right of veto' without reason and simply raise obstacles."

At the Shenzhen Economic Zone just across the border from Hong Kong, Mr. Peng Pang, the deputy director of the Shenzhen City External Economy and Liaison Office told a party of businessmen from Hong Kong that the authorities were planning to boost foreign investors' confidence by lowering taxes and delegating more responsibilities.

Mr. Peng told the businessmen from the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce that the intention of the new rules would be to emphasise that the special economic zones were truly special. However, he would not be more specific other than to say that the tax incentives "would be much better than people have expected."

In terms of mere numbers, the growth in ventures between China and the outside world has been impressive. China Economic

News reported in April that by the end of 1980 Guangdong province alone had signed 6,380 contracts with overseas concerns. The number for China as a whole might

ements, perhaps 80 per cent, have been made with concerns from Hong Kong and Macao. This is partly because the two territories lie close to China's special

China's special economic zones have not been as successful as expected in attracting foreign capital. The Peking Government is changing the laws that govern these zones to stimulate investment.

thus reach about 10,000.

But on closer examination, the small amounts of money tied up in the deals suggest that many foreign concerns have only tested the water. According to China's Economic Commission strict joint venture projects totalled 422 by the end of March this year. Of these, a mere 22 were equity joint ventures in China itself, with total investment worth \$210 million. Another 360 projects, with total investment worth \$500 million, were contractual joint ventures.

The remaining several thousand deals would be compensation trade (under which the foreign investor gets a share of production) or mere processing arrangements. Some Hong Kong doll-making factories, for example, find it cheaper to send the dolls to China to have their eyes painted on.

The preponderance of agr-

economic zones.

Shenzhen, the biggest, is on Hong Kong's doorstep. Shekou, run by the Hong Kong-based Chinese company China Merchants Steam Navigation, is the industrial area of Shenzhen. Zhuhai is in the hinterland of Macao, and Shantou is not far away.

More important is the fact that the Chinese "overseas patriots" have been more prepared to take things on trust than a complete foreigner would. As one Hong Kong Chinese businessman put it: "We are Chinese and they are Chinese and we can understand one another, whereas the American or European corporate lawyers must have the answers to the question which will occur only tomorrow."

Nevertheless, some Hong Kong companies admit to being hesitant about doing business with China. One company director, who has

appeared on public platforms praising co-operation with China, admitted privately that "at the moment all the agreements don't add up to a string of beans with which to climb the beanstalk to see what the outside world looks like."

Almost all investors have grumbles about the way their China deals have worked. Some complain of Chinese bureaucracy and the numbers of departments they have to consult, with a figure as high as 50 mentioned by some. Most say that the quality of labour and management leaves a lot to be desired.

Even factories where workers have learned to adapt to an industrial environment find it hard to motivate and get more effort out of workers. "You have to make allowances for people who have come straight from the fields to the factories, and most of them are learning fast", said a more sym-

pathetic investor.

"But at the end of the day, wages are low, much lower than in Hong Kong, and there is no extra pay for extra effort or extra production. It is a hard struggle."

Some foreign investors have bent the rules by giving prizes for the best workers, sometimes in cash and sometimes in kind.

Mr. Peng conceded that many of the problems existed. He said that about 400 factories with 17,000 workers were operating, but some had closed because of disputes and disagreements, and other potential investors were waiting for the new rules.

Optimists say that the special economic zones are now poised for takeoff. China realises the advantages of foreign co-operation, especially as the costs of almost all joint ventures are low.

Financial Times News Features

\$6 billion race shapes up for new fuel-saving plane

By Graham Stewart

CHICAGO — A \$6 billion race is shaping up between American and European aircraft builders to launch a new, fuel-saving 150-seat plane to fly world airlines into the 21st century.

Airbus Industrie, a consortium largely financed by the governments of France, West Germany and Britain, has already launched a bid to capture a world market estimated at about 2,000 planes. It has challenged Boeing and McDonnell Douglas Corporation, the big U.S. aircraft companies that have long dominated the commercial aviation industry.

Airlines have indicated they want a new plane by the late 1980s to replace their aging fleets of Boeing 727s and McDonnell Douglas DC-9s, as well as similar British-built Trident and BAC-111s.

With the price of aviation fuel skyrocketing in the last few years and profits nose-diving last year, the airlines put the emphasis on fuel economy. Secondly, they want a new-generation plane to seat about 150 passengers for short and medium-range flights.

The demand for fuel efficiency means the plane-makers must design a twin-jet aircraft, not a three-engine one like the workhorse Boeing 727, the world's most popular plane.

The stakes are high in the trans-Atlantic race to get the plane into the air. The aircraft builders estimate it will cost them about \$2 billion each to develop the new plane, and both Boeing

and McDonnell Douglas say they need foreign partners to share the expense. Industry experts in turn calculate the potential market at \$40 to 50 billion — at \$20 to 25 million a plane.

Although the new aircraft is not likely to be flying before 1986 or 1987, the race will probably be won or lost in the next year as the plane-makers chase orders from the major airlines. Airbus got a head start, announcing last month that it was going ahead with the plane, called the A-320, and that it already had a provisional order for 25, plus options for another 25, from France's national carrier Air France.

Boeing and McDonnell Douglas are still studying the feasibility and have not committed themselves thus far. But McDonnell Douglas went as far as to team up with the Dutch company Fokker to explore the project and is also talking about bringing in a Japanese partner.

McDonnell Douglas, which lost money heavily on its DC-10 jumbo jet, will decide by the end of this year whether to proceed with the plane it code-named the MDF-100. Likewise Boeing wants to sign up a foreign partner and some of the major U.S. or foreign airlines before plunging into what industry analysts term a high-risk gamble.

Analysts doubt both Boeing and McDonnell Douglas will compete with the government-backed Airbus. They expect one of the U.S. bidders to drop out along the way. "There's room for two, but definitely not three," says Wall Street analyst Eliot Fried.

Mr. Fried figures Airbus is in the race to stay "because it doesn't have to worry about making a profit." Airbus is financed 37.9 per cent by both France and West Germany, 20 per cent by Britain and 4.2 per cent by Spain.

Airbus, out to double its share of the world commercial aircraft market to 30 per cent, responds that it aims to be self-supporting by 1985 and has to turn a profit to repay the European governments which got it off the ground.

As for Boeing and McDonnell Douglas, Mr. Fried says: "Whichever one gets the first few big orders will frighten the other off."

United Airlines, the largest U.S. carrier, has indicated it will be in the market for 150 of the new planes. Delta Airlines wants 100.

Some business leaders worry that the airline industry, which suffered badly last year from increased fuel costs, might not be able to afford the hefty price tag of the new plane. U.S. carriers last year lost \$500 million but analysts are bullish on airline stocks this year and expect a sharp turnaround with profits soaring towards \$750 million.

Analysts give Boeing an edge over McDonnell Douglas, citing the advanced avionics already developed for its Boeing 757 and 767 aircraft due to go into service in the next two years. Boeing officials do not think the new plane — simply coded 7-7 at this stage — will be ready for at least five years because it will take that long to develop a suitable engine.

Airbus looks like it will use a General Electric-smeema engine

developed by Rolls-Royce and Japanese partners.

Boeing, however, could upset the scenario for the proposed 150-seat airliner if it decides to go ahead and build a new 727 with only two engines and also modify existing 727s. Boeing has just completed a study showing it is feasible to remove the third engine from the 727 tail and replace the two engines at the rear of the fuselage with more powerful ones.

Boeing estimated it would cost \$10 to 12 million each to reconfigure the 727s and would extend their life by 10 years.

American Airlines is particularly interested in converting its existing 727 fleet to twin engines, saying they would use 30 per cent less fuel. The airline's fuel costs soared by 40 per cent last year. "It could be a whole new ball-game if Boeing decides to turn the 727 into a twin-jet," says Mr. Fried. "It could delay the 150-seater, if not obviate the need for it altogether."

Mr. Fried thinks Boeing would use the new Pratt and Whitney 20-37 engine already developed for the 185-seat Boeing 757. Pratt and Whitney President Roberto Carlson advocates the two-engine 727 as a cheaper alternative and says the plane-makers are headed for self-destruction if they think there is enough business for everyone in what he calls the "chocolate cake."

"One or two may enjoy that cake," he says. "The others will end up with an empty plate — a very costly empty plate."

REUTER

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